

City of Champions Linda M. Balzotti- Mayor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 20, 2010

\$100,000 GRANT FOR FORECLOSURE COUNSELING

South Shore Neighborhood Housing Services awarded \$100,000 grant for foreclosure counseling

BROCKTON- Mayor Linda M. Balzotti announces that Neighborhood Housing Services of the South Shore has been awarded a \$100,000 grant as a part of the Attorney General's Office Financial Literacy Grant Program. The grant will enable Neighborhood Housing Services to continue offering foreclosure counseling to distressed homeowners and to educate prospective first-time homebuyers on how to avoid making mistakes during the home buying process.

Neighborhood Housing Services programs are vital to the Attorney General's efforts to address the fallout from the financial crisis in Massachusetts. They are also a necessary part of foreclosure prevention efforts in the City of Brockton.

"The high rate of foreclosures is a key issue facing the City of Brockton," said Mayor Linda M. Balzotti. "This grant is essential to my administration's efforts to minimize the impact that foreclosures have on the city."

In the past year, Neighborhood Housing Services programs have helped over 1,000 clients in the Brockton area with foreclosure counseling and homebuyer education. Neighborhood Housing Services is a designated counseling center for the Division of Banks and is certified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. In addition to foreclosure counseling programs, Neighborhood Housing Services has also sponsored many efforts along with the City of Brockton that have allowed homeowners to meet with their lenders to resolve issues that lead to foreclosure.

"My administration will continue to work with Neighborhood Housing Services to reduce the number of foreclosures in the City of Brockton," said Mayor Linda M. Balzotti.

For questions and/or further information concerning this release, please contact the Mayor's Office at (508)-580-7123. You can also obtain additional information by visiting the City of Brockton's Web site at: www.brockton.ma.us